



DIOCESE OF WINCHESTER

“WALKING THE WESSEX WAY”

Role Description for the Rector of the Parish of the Itchen Valley

Details of Post

Role Title:	Rector <i>Half Time Post</i>
Name of benefice:	The Parish of the Itchen Valley
Deanery:	Alresford
Archdeaconry:	Winchester

Role Context – An Introduction from Bishop Philip

Thank you for your interest in this role.

In this Diocese, we serve a whole range of diverse communities, from the historic city of Winchester with our glorious Cathedral, to the great port city of Southampton, the burgeoning boroughs of Basingstoke, Bournemouth and Christchurch, thriving market towns such as Andover, Alton, Alresford and Romsey, and innumerable picture-perfect Hampshire villages. In all that there is much wealth – but there is also significant deprivation too, especially in our large urban conurbations where our churches are supporting some of the diocese’s poorest communities.

In every context, we are committed to the making the love and life of Jesus Christ known, through our churches, schools and chaplaincies, in a way that makes a tangible difference to those communities and their people.

In parish ministry we seek people who are aware of the challenges that we face, but who are motivated above all by faith, hope and love in addressing them. We welcome those who are committed to help God’s church to be the very best it can be, in the power of the Spirit, releasing all God’s people into the mission and ministry to which they are called. And we recognise too our need to develop in diversity.

We are excited by the opportunities before us, and warmly invite applications from those who want to join us in addressing them.

With the assurance of my prayers as you seek God’s best next step for you.



General

- i. To exercise the cure of souls shared with the bishop in this parish in collaboration with your colleagues.
 - ii. To have regard to the calling and responsibilities of the clergy as described in the Canons, the Ordinal, the Code of Professional Conduct for the Clergy, and other relevant legislation.
 - iii. To work to advance the Kingdom of God through servant leadership, collaboration and example, and with regard to the current diocesan mission vision and values.
- a) **Serving** - Our diocese has played a major role in shaping this nation, and the life of the diocese is still marked by loving service, in innumerable ways, reaching out in love to those on the margins, serving the wider community, the nation and the wider world.
- b) **Learning** - Our diocese has been a major engine of Christian learning and education, from the time of King Alfred onwards, and remains a centre of education, learning and discipleship, through its universities and colleges, through its schools and churches.
- c) **Growing** - Our diocese has been a huge catalyst for church growth and mission. Today, we are still working for the revitalisation and renewal of our churches, equipping and enabling them for the challenges of this generation and beyond, nationally and internationally.
- d) **Loving** - Our diocese has emanated love that has changed our communities and the wider world. Today, as people encounter our churches, schools and chaplaincies, they find themselves brought face to face with the love of God in Christ, and find their lives changed as a consequence.

Specific

Working within the Parish of the Itchen Valley, we look forward to welcoming a priest who will walk alongside the parishioners in faith, help them to grow spiritually and pastorally; lead them in mission and service, and who will grow the parish into flourishing, confident church communities, generative of ministry and resource for those it serves and beyond.

The priest will be someone who:

- ❖ Lives out a life firmly rooted in Christ and inspired by the Holy Spirit, and who will nurture the spiritual life of the worshipping community, as well as their own spiritual life.
- ❖ Will lead and inspire the church congregations, building on the gifts and energy already present, and nurturing new vocations.



- ❖ Will relish occasions for rooting Church life into the wider communities, ensuring visible and viable presence in each village.
- ❖ Has a keen, loving interest in people and is able to engage with members of the community (whether church-goers or not) of all ages and at varying stages of faith, seeking to bring the Gospel's good news to everyone.
- ❖ Continues the parish's established approach to services that includes both traditional and informal forms of worship and honours the strengths of both, while evolving and improving them based on his or her own experience and expertise.
- ❖ Values musical contributions to services.
- ❖ Ensures the provision of good pastoral care across the parish.
- ❖ Encourages and builds a stronger team and collaborative effort in all the parish does, working closely with authorised ministers and volunteers.
- ❖ Identifies and trains further lay people to take on roles in church and community life, recognising and nurturing their talents in the process while deepening their spirituality.
- ❖ Is committed to work creatively together with other clergy and laity in the Deanery to formulate new strategies for the future; most especially potentially involving closer collaboration with Arle Valley benefices and other parts of the Deanery .
- ❖ Will fully participate in and contribute to the life of the Deanery (including synod and chapter) and Diocese.

Key Contacts

Generic

The Ministry Team

The Church Wardens and PCC

The Deanery Chapter and Synod of Alresford Deanery

The Diocesan Staff at Old Alresford Place

Specific

Head teachers and staff at local schools: Itchen Abbas Primary School and Prince's Mead Preparatory School.

Local councillors

Supportive

Lay Chair: Mrs. Gillian Gray Knight

Area Dean: The Revd David Chattell

The Archdeacon: The Venerable Richard Brand

The Suffragan Bishop: The Rt Revd Kelly Betteridge, Bishop of Basingstoke